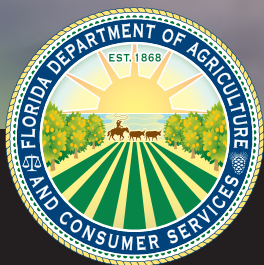


2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner

Dear Governor Scott, Senate President Gaetz and Speaker Weatherford:

It has been more than three years since I was sworn in as Florida's Commissioner of Agriculture, and it's an honor to serve the people of Florida in this capacity. I'm incredibly proud of what we've accomplished at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services over the last year. We're improving our traditional programs, while finding new and innovative ways to support Florida's \$108 billion agriculture industry and safeguard Florida's 19 million residents and 80 million visitors from consumer fraud.



The Fresh From Florida brand is as strong as ever. Through a first-ever statewide television advertising campaign, we're spreading the message that "delicious is always served Fresh From Florida." The advertisements, coupled with our international outreach efforts, have helped increase sales of Florida-grown products, generating an estimated \$292 million in additional cash receipts for Florida farmers, \$21 million in indirect tax revenues and more than 5,800 jobs for Floridians.

Even Florida's students are enjoying Fresh From Florida produce at school. We're working to connect Florida schools with Florida farms so we can improve the nutritional value of school meals. Rather than counting ketchup as a vegetable, Florida students can now count locally grown fresh snap beans, sweet corn and strawberries toward their daily intake of fruits and vegetables. We grow a variety of fresh produce in Florida and, by incorporating more of it into school meals, we are fueling our students with the sustenance they need to succeed.

I've continued to fight to protect our Second Amendment right to bear arms. My department manages Florida's concealed weapon license program, and we've worked to improve the processing procedures so that those who are eligible will be granted their licenses in a timely manner. In partnership with you and the Legislature, I worked to eliminate the age requirement (21) for active and retired military. I'm proud to extend this opportunity to Florida's military.

We're working to honor Florida's more than 1.5 million veterans in many other ways, too. Our Operation Outdoor Freedom program invites men and women who were wounded while serving in uniform to enjoy special recreational opportunities on Florida's state forests, including hunting and fishing. Since the program was formalized in 2011, we've shared Florida's great outdoors with more than 300 wounded veterans and heard their stories of service and sacrifice around the campfire. We are grateful for these heroes and proud to honor their service to our nation.

Thanks for your support over the years. I'm honored to work with you to make Florida the best place to live, work, play and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Adam H. Putnam". The signature is fluid and cursive.

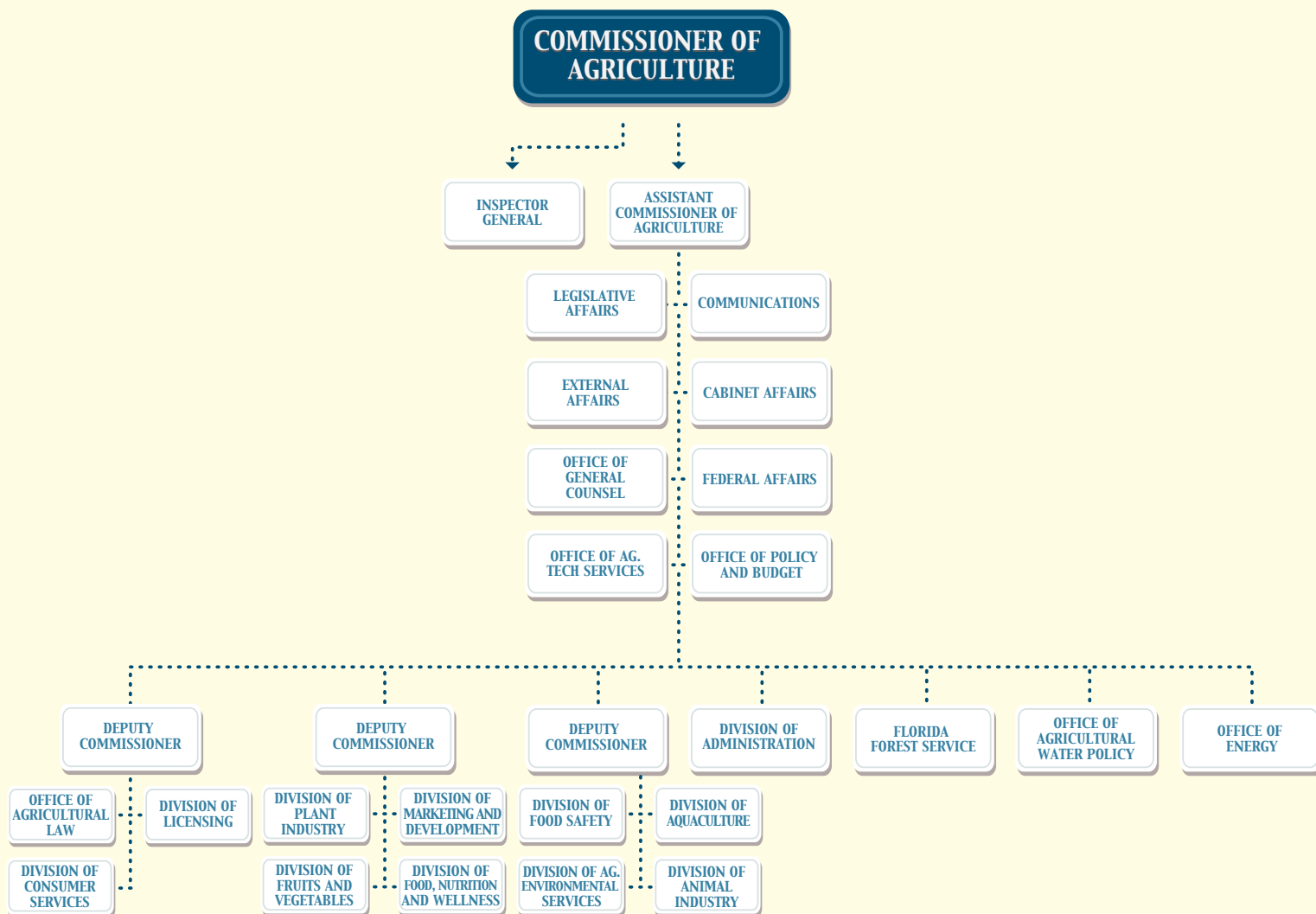
Adam H. Putnam
Commissioner of Agriculture



Department Overview

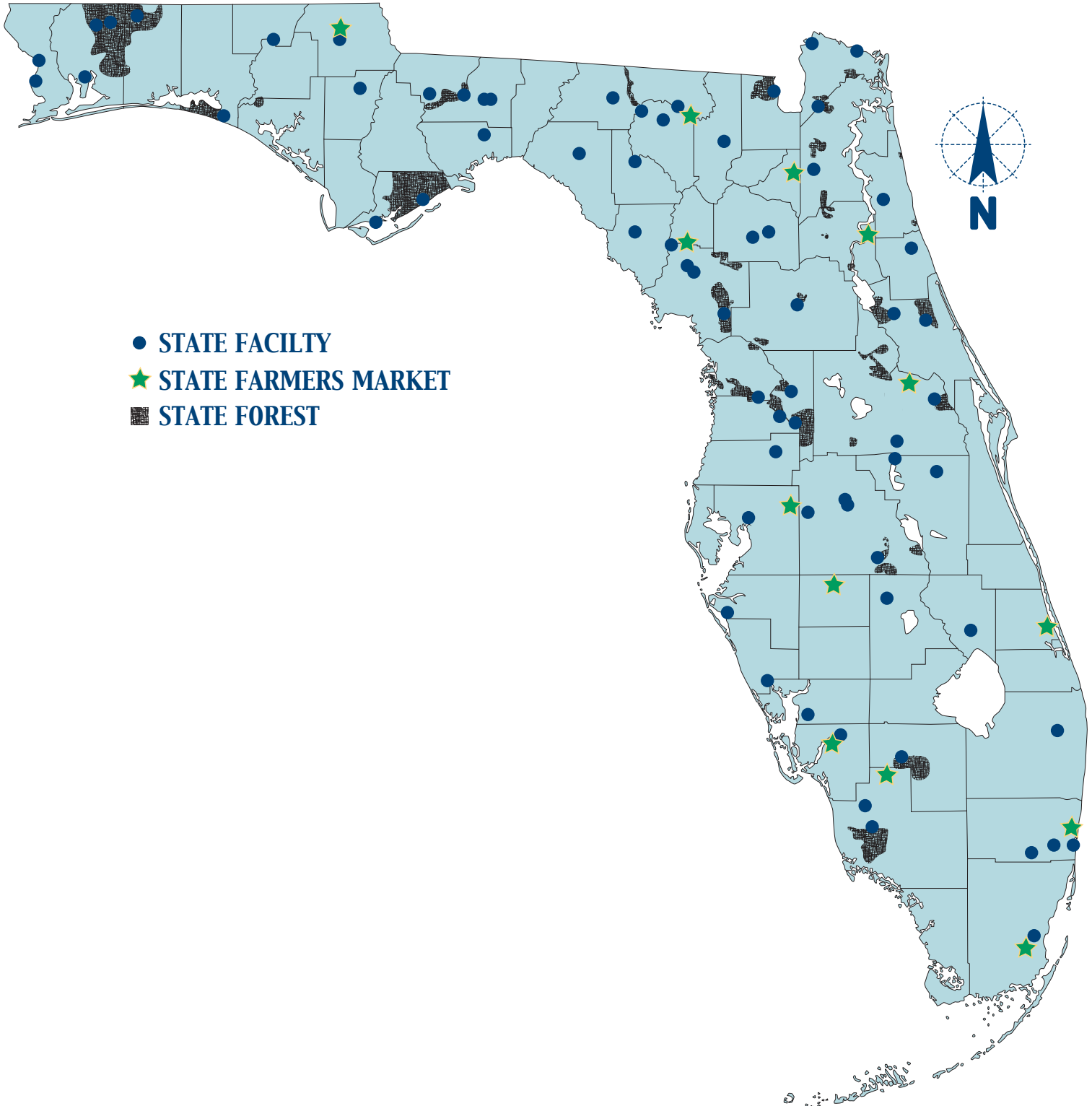
The department is guided by the leadership of the Commissioner of Agriculture, a statewide elected position and one of four members of Florida's Cabinet. The department consists of 12 divisions and three offices that report to the Assistant Commissioner/Chief of Staff and/or one of three Deputy Commissioners. Made up of nearly 4,000 staff positions, the department has a presence throughout the state and is headquartered in the state Capitol building in Tallahassee.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Organizational Chart 2013





Department Presence





Accomplishments by Division

The wide range of responsibilities statutorily required of the department is broken down across divisions and offices. Though each division serves a different purpose and a different audience, collectively, this department touches the lives of every Floridian.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

The Division of Administration manages the department's internal functions, ranging from personnel management, employee training and fiscal operations to facilities management and purchasing.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Administration:

- Launched an online contracts transparency website, which allows an individual to search disbursement information for contractual services agreements for the prior 10 fiscal years, and also provides an electronic copy of contractual services agreements entered into after July 1, 2013, to promote government accountability.
 - Saved taxpayer dollars on property leases by eliminating five leases of private property and improving utilization of existing department locations and leases.
 - Established an online auction website with GovDeals.com to sell surplus property.
 - Launched a new training vision for the department, which is designed to leverage training resources in the department more efficiently and align training needs with duties and responsibilities.
 - In partnership with the Florida Forest Service, modified the rule (60L-34.0031) for Federal Labor Standards Act (FLSA) compensatory leave to allow included employees to accrue up to 160 hours of FLSA compensatory leave in a 12 month period with only one payout date each year. Previously, employees were capped at 80 hours over six months, which was limiting for Florida Forest Service employees whose workload is seasonal.
 - Streamlined the process of advertising for vacant positions, selecting candidates and approving new employee selections. The process for filling vacant positions was reduced from an average duration of 123 days to 37 days.
-

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Division of Agricultural Environmental Services works with the agriculture industry to properly register pesticides for use in accordance with federal and state requirements, regulates pest control services, works with local governments to effectively conduct mosquito control programs and certifies the safety and effectiveness of feed, seed and fertilizer products.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Agricultural Environmental Services:

- Conducted 11,682 pest control, feed, seed, fertilizer and pesticide inspections and investigations. As a result, the department identified 2,948 entities in violation and worked to protect the integrity of the industry and Floridians by bringing them into compliance.

- Conducted a series of workshops to encourage open communication between citrus growers and beekeepers. The meetings resulted in development of voluntary measures aimed at mitigating risks to honeybees, while allowing citrus growers to continue practices that are needed to combat citrus greening.
- Worked with the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) to create a web-based application to administer exams. FDACS handles the registration and licensing side of the process, and UF/IFAS handles the exam scheduling and testing side. There are currently five counties in Florida set up for computer-based testing. Twenty-one additional counties are in the process of being set up for computer-based examinations. Exam results are immediately available to the examinee upon the completion of the exam.
- Continued working in Broward County to respond to a persistent infestation of an invasive Caribbean termite known as the Conehead termite.
- Implemented an online licensing system for limited certification for commercial fertilizer applicators that provided license issuance within 24 hours.

OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement provides investigative and law enforcement support of the department's regulatory programs.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement:

- Conducted more than 7.4 million inspections of commercial vehicles and containers entering and exiting the state through 23 agricultural interdiction stations; identified approximately 1,700 plant, food and animal violations; seized approximately \$389,150 in narcotics; and recovered \$58,300 in stolen property. Florida collected more than \$10.6 million as a direct result of inspection efforts.
- Initiated 592 criminal investigations, resulting in 411 criminal charges issued. Total combined financial recoveries were \$410,652.
- Initiated 1,516 regulatory investigations and 2,452 on-site compliance inspections, resulting in 741 violations identified and 218 Cease and Desist Orders issued.
- Partnered with 78 local law enforcement agencies in administering the Florida Domestic Marijuana Eradication Program. Partners reported the destruction of 44,557 marijuana plants from 816 grow sites, 738 arrests, seizure of 189 firearms and \$865,000 in asset forfeitures. The department also provided investigations training to 181 local, state and federal law enforcement officers from Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina, and provided more than \$416,000 in direct disbursements to Florida local law enforcement agencies to help offset their investigative costs.

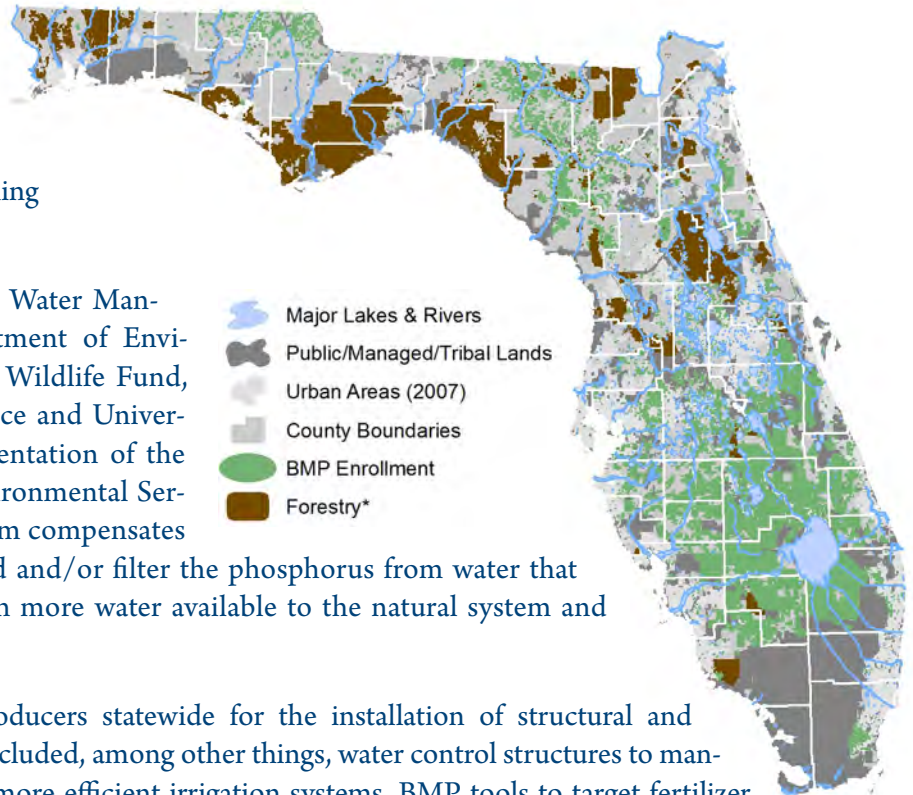


OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL WATER POLICY

The Office of Agricultural Water Policy provides leadership and facilitates communication among federal, state and local agencies and the agriculture industry on issues related to water quantity and quality.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Office of Agricultural Water Policy:

- Enrolled more than 431,607 acres of citrus, sod, vegetable/agronomic crop, container nursery, fruit/nut, equine, and cattle land in the department's agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP) program, expanding the total statewide enrollment to approximately 3.8 million acres. About 103,000 of the new acreage was enrolled through the Suwannee River Partnership, representing a reduction of nearly 5.2 million pounds of fertilizer being applied on this acreage due to more efficient fertilization and irrigation practices, and bringing basin-wide enrollment to approximately 277,962 acres. About 173,644 acres of the new acreage was enrolled within the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection area.
- Helped producers save more than 1.2 billion gallons of water in 2013 by funding services from Mobile Irrigation Labs, which identify opportunities for producers to improve irrigation system efficiency and irrigation scheduling to save water.
- Continued to assist the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), World Wildlife Fund, Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Florida-IFAS with the implementation of the Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services Program. This partnership program compensates ranchers who store water on their land and/or filter the phosphorus from water that flows across their property, resulting in more water available to the natural system and overall improved water quality.
- Administered about \$5 million to producers statewide for the installation of structural and non-structural BMPs. These practices included, among other things, water control structures to manage and store stormwater, upgrades to more efficient irrigation systems, BMP tools to target fertilizer applications and schedule irrigation more efficiently, alternative frost/freeze protection methods, on-farm weather stations, and wetland buffers, all of which help protect water resources. About \$3 million of the total cost share was used for practices to reduce phosphorus loads and store water in the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program area. Through the Suwannee River Partnership, BMP cost share was provided to 150 agricultural operations.
- Assumed a formal role in regional water supply planning. Legislation passed during the 2013 session requires FDACS to assist water management districts in estimating the future water needs of agriculture and helping develop policies and programs to meet those projected needs. FDACS will continue to work closely with the water management districts, agricultural associations, UF/IFAS, FDEP and other interested stakeholders in implementing this new responsibility.
- Continued to work in partnership with FDEP to establish state control in setting numeric nutrient criteria for Florida's waters. Both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and FDEP have completed their obligations to implement a plan that would allow the EPA to withdraw all of their final and pending rules, and EPA has submitted a petition in federal court to do so.



DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

The Division of Animal Industry protects the state from animal pests and diseases, which could have major economic and public health consequences. It also ensures that all federal and state animal health codes are followed.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Animal Industry:

- Responded to reports of 150 suspected dangerous transmissible animal diseases in Florida. These notifications resulted in 19 foreign and emerging animal disease investigations. The department continues to monitor for the presence of animal diseases in order to mitigate their spread and, at this time, there are no significant threats.
- Monitored, quarantined, sampled and tested a record of more than 400 horses imported from countries affected with Contagious Equine Metritis into the United States through Florida this year, an 11.5 percent increase over the previous year. In addition to strengthening the state's economy, this work helps to ensure equine health and compliance with state and federal import requirements.
- Published a proposed Florida Cattle Identification Rule (5C-31) in November 2013. The rule is intended to improve the state's ability to trace diseased animals and prevent disease spread in an animal disease emergency and to protect the marketability of Florida cattle. Department employees held more than 50 industry workshops and meetings around the state to discuss the need for and impact of such a rule.
- Continued to work with the Florida deer industry and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) to protect the health of captive and wild deer in the state. FWCC issued an Executive Order banning the importation of deer into the state in an effort to prevent the introduction of Chronic Wasting Disease, a fatal neurologic disease that has not been reported in Florida, but has been found in both captive and wild deer in a number of states. FDACS and FWCC continued to work together to monitor deer in the state, investigate any reports of suspected disease and to take steps to prevent transmission.
- Continued through the Bronson Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory - University of Florida consortium to conduct long distance, bi-monthly pathology presentations among its veterinarians using real-time, high-resolution technology online. The technology has enhanced the interactive exchange of veterinary knowledge and been used to train students around the state.
- Continued to lead Florida's participation in the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS), the only comprehensive reporting system for World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). Under NAHRS, state animal health officials report monthly on the occurrence of confirmed OIE-reportable diseases in Florida livestock, poultry and aquaculture species. By providing timely summary level information on animal health status to our trading partners, NAHRS helps protect the United States' share of the global market for animals and animal products. The Bronson Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory reported more than 300 disease results into this system in 2013.

DIVISION OF AQUACULTURE

The Division of Aquaculture inspects the state's shellfish processing plants to ensure a quality product, inspects aquaculture facilities to protect Florida's natural resources, classifies and manages shellfish harvesting area waters to reduce the risk of shellfish-borne illness, manages the leasing of submerged state lands and restores oyster reefs to enhance productivity.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Aquaculture:

- Gained approval from the Board of Trustees for the first surface-to-bottom water column lease in Florida waters in June 2013. Since then, the Board of Trustees has approved 26 modifications for traditional bottom leases to water column leases.

- Partnered with UF/IFAS on a series of oyster workshops to educate interested industry representatives, agency staff and the public on water column aquaculture. The first set of workshops focused on the application process, navigational marking requirements and economics of the systems. The second set of workshops focused on seed types and availability and gear types.
- Partnered with UF/IFAS to assist the UF Oyster Recovery Task Forces. The department provided technical advice and works to identify opportunities to assist oyster harvesters impacted by the lack of resource due to the ongoing drought.
- Coordinated with the USDA/Farm Service Agency and representatives from the ornamental fish industry to evaluate the non-insured crop disaster assistance program with respect to the tropical fish industry.
- Secured \$200,518 in funding for Aquaculture Review Council proposals to research alternative grow out and harvesting methods of the Sun Ray Venus clam, evaluate escapement of non-native fish from aquaculture facilities and quantify ecological risks of tropical ornamental fish in the United States.
- Continued to collaborate with the shellfish industry to evaluate the red tide quarantine testing procedure to develop a solution that works for the industry and meets all food safety requirements.

DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES

The Division of Consumer Services is the state's clearinghouse for consumer complaints, information and protection. It also regulates various business industries, including motor vehicle repair shops, charitable organizations, Florida's Do Not Call program, sellers of travel, intrastate movers, telemarketing, fair rides, liquid petroleum gas distributors and weighing and measuring devices.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Consumer Services:

- Received more than 47,000 complaints and returned nearly \$3.5 million to consumers through administrative action and mediation between consumers and businesses.
- Responded to nearly 200,000 calls, more than 7,600 emails and nearly 8,000 chats from consumers with questions or comments. Participated in 130 outreach events reaching nearly 80,000 consumers.
- Increased enforcement actions for Do Not Call complaints by adding informal settlements and administrative complaints to the enforcement process. In 2013, 50 actions were filed against violators of the Do Not Call statute, resulting in more than \$148,000 in fines issued.
- Performed more than 236,000 petroleum inspections to test for fuel quality, more than 8,700 inspections on LP Gas for safety, and more than 53,000 inspections of weighing and measuring devices, packages and scanners to test for accuracy. Inspected nearly 9,400 amusement rides to ensure consumer safety. Performed more than 120,000 laboratory analyses on more than 37,000 antifreeze, brake fluid and petroleum samples. The metrology lab performed more than 11,000 volume or mass tests.

Received more than **47,000 complaints**

Returned nearly **\$3.5 million**
to consumers

Responded to nearly **200,000 calls**

Responded to over **7,600 emails** and
nearly **8,000 chats**

Participated in **130 outreach events**
reaching nearly **80,000 consumers.**

- Transferred collection of petroleum inspection fees to the Department of Revenue, streamlining the process and making filing less burdensome for the industry.
- Amended the definition of alternative fuels so that the department can adopt applicable fuel quality standards for new and emerging products.

OFFICE OF ENERGY

The Office of Energy supports the development and analysis of state energy policies. In addition, the Office of Energy is responsible for administering financial incentive programs that increase the production of energy or yield energy savings.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Office of Energy:

- Launched the “Florida Energy Clearinghouse,” a web portal where Floridians can compare energy saving technologies, as well as learn about renewable energy technologies, research being conducted in Florida and energy usage and production.
- Launched “My Florida Home Energy” at www.myfloridahomeenergy.com, an interactive online platform where consumers can find information about how to improve energy efficiency in their homes and save money on utility costs. The website generates a customized plan based on a user’s input and estimates how much money a consumer can save if upgrades are made.
- Implemented HB 569 by designing a rebate program to assist both public and private fleets to use more natural gas vehicles by either converting existing vehicles or purchasing or leasing natural gas vehicles. The rules for this program will become effective in early 2014.
- Finalized the expenditures of 98 percent of the federally funded State Energy Program grants and 96 percent of the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grants. These programs created local jobs, stimulated the economy and assisted local governments in cutting their energy costs.
- Hosted the third Florida Energy Summit at Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando. More than 400 individuals representing a broad spectrum of Florida’s energy industry participated in the three-day summit. Speakers and panelists focused on how to take advantage of the rapid changes occurring in the energy industry to create new markets, jobs and opportunities for Florida businesses.



FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

The Florida Forest Service protects Florida and its residents through the prevention, detection and suppression of wildland fires. The Florida Forest Service also manages more than 1 million acres of state forest resources and provides forest management assistance to forest landowners and urban communities.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Florida Forest Service accomplished the following:



**2,045
WILDFIRES**

**37,711
ACRES BURNED**

**836
HOMES AND
BUSINESSES SAVED**

- Administered the most active prescribed fire program in the nation. Prescribed burning is an important land management tool in Florida as it increases forest health, improves wildlife habitat, enhances timber growth and reduces the risk and severity of wildfires. For the 2013 calendar year, the Florida Forest Service issued 82,214 open burning authorizations, allowing 2.3 million acres of land to be managed with prescribed fire.
- Certified 59 Firewise Communities, developed 38 county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plans and initiated implementation of the Ready Set Go! Program. These programs allow homeowners to help protect their homes and their neighbors' homes from the destructive effects of wildfire.
- Hosted 35 Operation Outdoor Freedom events, which provided opportunities for 250 of Florida's wounded veterans to enjoy some of Florida's finest state and private lands. The program was established in 2011, after which the Florida Forest Service designated tracts of state forests in honor of wounded veterans and installed special accommodations to host wounded veterans for recreational opportunities. To date, more than 300 wounded veterans have participated in Operation Outdoor Freedom events.
- Enrolled 104,857 additional acres into the forestry BMP program, expanding the total number of acres enrolled to 5.3 million. Based on a survey conducted by the department, Florida landowners enrolled in the program demonstrated a 99 percent compliance rate with forestry BMPs.
- Generated \$8.1 million in revenue from the sale of traditional forest products (pulpwood, chip-n-saw and saw timber), miscellaneous forest products (pine straw, apiary and grazing leases, palm fronds, fuelwood) and recreational usage receipts on 35 state forests. This number is more than double the revenue that was generated in 2012. This total also includes revenue generated from the Florida Forest Service's share of the Other Public Lands Program where foresters assist other agencies and counties with timber harvests for a percentage of the timber sale revenue.
- Assisted more than 530 landowners who participated in federal cost-share programs, including: tree planting, prescribed burning, invasive species removal and management plan development. These cost shares provided more than \$1.8 million in federal funding to the landowners to help them maintain healthy, productive forests on more than 115,000 acres.
- Administered the Florida National Champion Tree Program. Florida now has 133 national champion trees, the most of any state in the United States. The public can access information about each of these trees through an interactive portal on the Florida Forest Service website www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/Florida-Champion-Trees.
- Completed the first Comprehensive Statewide Forest Inventory and Analysis. The results show that forestland covers almost 17 million acres in Florida, approximately half of all land in the state. Of the state's 8 million pine acres, 7 million occur in north Florida. Plantations, predominantly pine, account for one-third of all Florida's forests. Sixty-three percent of Florida's forests are privately owned with the highest proportions in the northern part of the state. Federal, state, county and municipal governments own the remaining 37 percent of Florida's forests. The study counted 65 primary wood-using mills. The most common are sawmills, mulch, chip-and-saw and pulp mills. Overall, in regard to timber supply, Florida's forests are sustainable across species



and timber products, with net growth exceeding timber demand at a ratio of slightly more than 2 to 1.

- Certified 166 Florida communities with the “Tree City USA” designation, the fifth highest number of any state, and supported their efforts to maintain healthy forests through tree planting and maintenance. Also awarded 24 grants to communities totaling \$255,000 for tree planting and to improve management of their urban trees.

DIVISION OF FOOD, NUTRITION AND WELLNESS

The Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness administers the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Afterschool Snack Program, Summer Food Service Program, Seamless Summer Option Program and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Program responsibilities include advocating changes in policy that ensure the most nutritious meal is provided to children and that all children in Florida are educated on the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle.

During 2013, the Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness:

- Launched a multi-year school breakfast promotional campaign “Huddle Up for Breakfast” to promote the importance of breakfast and increase participation in the School Breakfast Program, in partnership with the Dairy Council of Florida and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents. The goal is to improve the health and academic success of Florida’s students by offering breakfast in nontraditional ways at school. Students who participate in school breakfast show improved attendance, behavior and standardized achievement test scores, as well as decreased tardiness.
- Increased participation by 11.6 percent in the Summer Feeding Program. Efforts to raise awareness included partnering with the Florida Department of Children and Families to communicate directly to families who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Thirteen additional sponsors and 300 additional feeding sites assisted in meeting increased participation. In the summer of 2013, 1.3 million more meals were served than in the summer of 2012.
- Implemented new nutritional standards for the National School Lunch Program, requiring more fruit, vegetable and whole grain options. The department partnered with Nutrislice to help communicate the new menu items and their nutritional value. Nutrislice built custom interactive online menus that provide a description of the item and its nutritional information, as well as allergy alerts. Nutrislice also features a smart device menu app, nutrition education through digital signage and mobile texting. By end of 2013, 32 school districts had implemented the new software. These 32 districts account for 2.1 million Florida students, who represent 78.6 percent of the student population participating in the National School Lunch Program.



DIVISION OF FOOD SAFETY

The Division of Food Safety monitors food from farm gate through processing and distribution to the retail point of purchase to ensure the public of a safe, wholesome and properly represented food supply. In doing so,

the division permits and inspects food establishments, inspects food products and performs laboratory analyses on a variety of food products sold or produced in the state.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Food Safety:

- Completed development for and implementation of two new information technology projects. The Food Inspection Management System and the Food Safety Laboratory Information Management System will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of food safety activities and operations throughout Florida.
 - Accommodated the division's migration to the Food and Drug Administration's 2009 Food Code. The food code is a model for state and local agencies that provides guidance for mitigating the risk of food-borne illness in retail food stores and food service operations.
 - Adopted the risk-based food establishment inspection process, which focuses on assessing the level of active managerial control an operator maintains over the five food-borne illness risk factors as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The five risk factors are:
 - Unsafe food sources
 - Poor personal hygiene
 - Contaminated equipment
 - Inadequate cooking
 - Improper holding temperatures
-

DIVISION OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The Division of Fruit and Vegetables ensures that Florida agriculture meets established standards and grades. It also carries out marketing orders for various fruit and vegetable commodities, including citrus, avocados, peanuts and tomatoes.

During 2013 calendar year, the Division of Fruit and Vegetables:

- Performed more than 350 food safety audits, including Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices audits, Florida Tomato Good Agricultural Practices audits, USDA Tomato Protocol audits, USDA Harmonized audits and Partners in Quality audits.
 - Inspected 139.9 million 3/5 bushel cartons of citrus for processors and 28.1 million 4/5 bushel cartons for fresh citrus packinghouses.
 - Conducted shipping point vegetable inspections on 803,945 tons, including 1.2 million bushels of avocados, 44.4 million pounds of shelled peanuts, 291,408 tons of farmer stock peanuts, 453,957 50-pound bags of potatoes and 35.7 million 25-pound containers of fresh tomatoes.
 - Conducted terminal market inspections totaling 54,034 tons of produce.
-

DIVISION OF LICENSING

The Division of Licensing is responsible for protecting the public from unethical business practices on the part of individuals providing private security, private investigative and recovery services through licensure and regulation of those industries. In addition, the division is responsible for the issuance of concealed weapon or firearm licenses.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Licensing:

Issued 339,669 licenses, including:

- 251,568 concealed weapon licenses
- 99 recovery agent licenses
- 3,814 private investigator licenses
- 65,773 security officer licenses
- Developed information that uncovered a scheme to submit fraudulent training certificates to the department in order to obtain licensure for security officers. The investigation also uncovered fraudulent training certificates that security officers and private investigators used to obtain a statewide firearms license without benefit of required firearms training. The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement arrested or took administrative action against individuals found to be in violation.
- Partnered with Florida Department of Law Enforcement to develop a specialized training program for law enforcement officers on property repossession processes. The training is designed to assist law enforcement in understanding the repossession process and the laws governing recovery.

DIVISION OF MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Marketing and Development develops strategies to facilitate the buying, selling and marketing of Florida agricultural products. It assists the state in expanding markets and operates 13 wholesale farmer's markets.

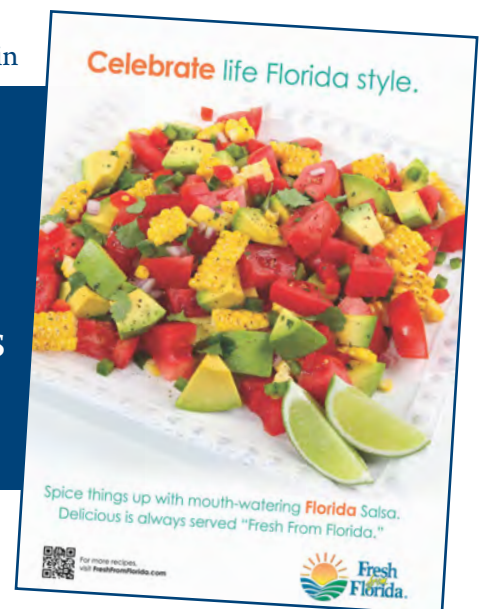
During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Marketing and Development:

- Expanded consumer awareness and consumption of Fresh From Florida products through partnerships with 57 retail chains, including more than 11,000 stores worldwide.
- Launched advertisements featuring fresh Florida produce and seafood in quick, easy and healthy recipes. Advertisements appeared on cable television, Hispanic language television and digital media statewide, in transit in the Miami market and in regional consumer magazines.
- Promotion and outreach efforts generated an estimated \$292.7 million in additional cash receipts for Florida farmers, \$21.7 million in indirect tax revenues and more than 5,800 jobs for Floridians.
- Introduced the Fresh From Florida On the Menu Restaurant program, a partnership with Florida restaurants to feature Florida products on the menu and display the Fresh From Florida logo. Fifteen restaurants in South, Southwest and Central Florida feature select Fresh From Florida menu items.
- Recognized Joe's Stone Crab of Miami Beach and The Columbia Restaurant of Tampa with the Century of Excellence Award for their commitment to serving locally grown and harvested products for more than a century.

**\$292.7 MILLION
IN ADDITIONAL CASH
RECEIPTS FOR FLORIDA
FARMERS**

**\$21.7 MILLION IN
INDIRECT TAX REVENUES**

**5,800 JOBS FOR
FLORIDIANS**



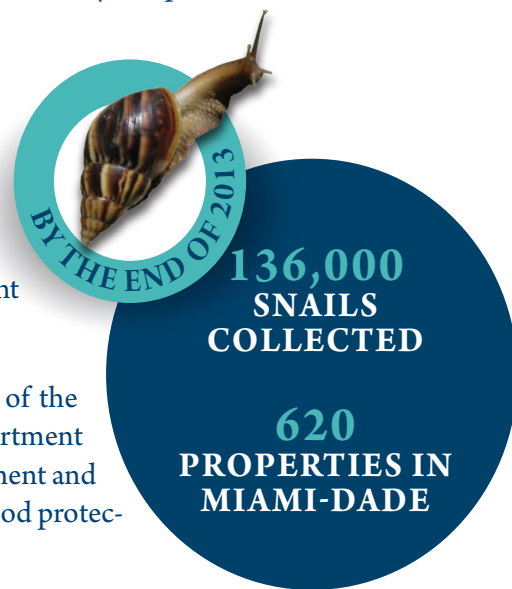
- Promoted Fresh From Florida products through demonstrations at Chef Jamie Oliver's Recipease Cooking School in London for 50 travel and food writers, new episodes of the award-winning "How to Do Florida" television show and seafood promotions in conjunction with Whole Foods and Coastal Living magazine.

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

The Division of Plant Industry excludes, detects, intercepts and controls plant and honey bee pests that threaten Florida's native and commercially grown plants and agricultural resources.

During the 2013 calendar year, the Division of Plant Industry:

- Continued the program to eradicate Giant African Land Snails (GALS) detected in Miami during September 2011. With the combination of a dedicated workforce collecting snails, a more effective bait being applied, several research projects underway and an active outreach program, the department remains optimistic that eradication is possible with continued perseverance.
- Surveyed more than 241,000 acres of commercial citrus groves as part of the Citrus Health Response Program, a cooperative effort between the department and the U.S. Department of Agriculture that concentrates on the development and implementation of high standards for citrus inspection from citrus budwood protection to producing groves.
- Expanded budwood nursery production to provide additional clean stock to assist the citrus industry in replanting lost trees due to citrus greening.
- Analyzed more than 325,000 samples for pest identification and evaluated 326 plant pest permits.
- Conducted survey programs for a number of commodities including tomato, corn, potato, cotton, forest and nursery for more than 36 exotic pests, including emerald ash borer, Tuta absoluta, Asian longhorned beetle, Mexican rice borer, light brown apple moth, laurel wilt and Mikania micrantha. Division staff inspected 18,256 nurseries and stock dealers; issued 13,850 export certificates; serviced 473,558 exotic fruit fly traps; certified 73,660 acres of citrus groves responsible producing 4.2 million cartons of fruit free of Caribbean fruit fly and collected \$3.1 million in revenue for the state.



- Expanded the Travelers Don't Pack a Pest program to airports in Jamaica and Puerto Rico. The campaign, which currently has a presence in the nation's 20 busiest airports where 85 percent of international travelers enter the United States, educates international travelers about the risks associated with bringing undeclared agriculture items into the United States.



How Can We Help You?

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services offers a number of resources to assist you, including:

- **A-Z Resource Guide** – Find the proper state agency to contact on any issue, listed in alphabetical order.
- **Agricultural Best Management Practices** – Read about practical, cost-effective actions agricultural producers can take to conserve water and protect water quality.
- **Buy Fresh From Florida** – Learn where you can buy the freshest, highest-quality, locally grown products.
- **Business Registration** – Required to register with the department? Start the process online.
- **Concealed Weapon License** – Interested to apply for or renew a concealed weapon license? Find out more about the program, its requirements and your eligibility.
- **Gift Giver's Guide** – Donate your money wisely. Look up financial information about charities registered with the state of Florida.
- **Florida State Forests** – Find the state forest nearest you and enjoy Florida's natural beauty, as well as hiking, biking, horseback riding, birding, hunting and fishing.
- **Fresh From Florida Recipes** – Browse our recipes to find healthy, simple ways to prepare fresh Florida fruits, vegetables, meats and seafood.
- **Little Black Book of Scams** – Review the most common scams to defraud consumers and find out how you can protect yourself.
- **Living Healthy in Florida** – Get fit and healthy with this helpful toolkit. Find recipes, cooking demonstrations, activities for kids, and tips for better living.
- **My Florida Home Energy** – Use this tool to analyze your current energy usage, conserve energy at home and lower your monthly utility bills.
- **Points of Interest** – Explore Florida and all it has to offer. The Points of Interest map will help you plan your trip and take advantage of local resources.
- **Wildfire Information** – Find current fire conditions by county, burn bans, and helpful tips regarding wildfire prevention.



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Need Assistance?

Contact the department's consumer assistance center at 1-800-HELP-FLA or visit www.800helpfla.com to file a complaint or chat with an operator.